Serial No. 09/964,623

Claim 9 (Currently Amended). A method for manufacturing an optical fiber soot using an apparatus having a core burner and a core partition in a reactor, comprising steps of:

executing a Vapor-phase axial deposition process in a the reactor,

wherein, a the core partition is provide on a periphery of said core burner, and a bottom of the core partition contacts a bottom surface of the reactor.

Core partition is configured to reduce flame flicker.

The term reduce is supported by page 13, lines 2-4

"... the flicker of core flame to be smaller ..."

Proposed

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COMMENTS

In accordance with our telephone conversation of today, I have enclosed proposed Claim 9.

In the event that any fees are due, including any fees required under 37 CFR 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge the required fees to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 CFR 1.136 for the necessary extension of time.